

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5 are currently pending in the application. Claim 6 has been canceled. Claims 7-9 have been added. Claims 7-9 contain the language found in Claims 1-3, but are not written in means plus function format. No new matter has been added.

By way of summary, Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harada in view of Iwata. The Official Action takes the position (pages 5 and 6) that Harada differs from Claim 1 in several regards. First, Harada does not specifically teach illustrating the predetermined position in units of the blocks. Second, Harada is silent as to the positional data including data that describes the position of the subsequent block in terms relative to the position of the previous block.

To overcome this deficiency of Harada, the Official Action turns to Iwata for teaching of these features. In particular, the Official Action takes the position on page 6 that data describing the position of the subsequent block in terms relative to the position of the previous block is met by the selection of sequential paging in step S211 where the whole contents of the next page or previous page are displayed in display panel 11 (step 22) and then followed again (step 20) as set forth in paragraph [0138].

From Applicant's review of Iwata, Applicant finds that the reference is directed to a display of electronic book-form contents for use in turning pages as part of looking for a reading place while seeing information on the pages of magazines, newspapers, manuals, etc. See paragraph [0002]. Iwata discloses in paragraph [0009] that the document constituting information includes composition information, ID information, etc. Iwata discloses at paragraph [0023] that it is an object of the invention to realize the high operability page turning function capable in reading document contents on a monitor screen, conducting page

ejection (paging) in a state securing a short understanding of the contents of each page and shortening the waiting time stemming from display switching between pages. As set forth in paragraph [0030], this enables three-way page display of careful reading, cursory reading or (skimming), and general view (glancing). Paragraphs [0035] and [0036] recite that in the automatic paging display mode only an image is extracted from each page and displayed to make a partial display of each page thus displaying only an image portion which is instantaneously and easily sizable at the paging and that the display resolution of each page is altered as a function of paging speed. As set forth in paragraphs [0081-0088], the paging speeds (display times per page) for these three types of display modes are set in the following three states: In state (a1), reading display mode is where, with no instruction from the reader, the present display picture continuously appears on the monitor screen. In state (a2), the first automatic paging display mode (automatic paging 1), pages are automatically turned at an interval of more than 1 per second, for example approximately 3 seconds, in accordance with a paging instruction from a reader. In state (a3), the second automatic paging display mode (automatic paging 2), pages are automatically turned at a short interval, for example, below 1 second in accordance with a paging instruction from a reader. In addition, methods of displaying document components in the foregoing three types display modes are set according to the following modes (b1)-(b3). Mode (b1) is a reading display mode which the entire image on each page is directly displayed on a monitor. In mode (b2), the first automatic paging display mode (automatic paging 1), each page is displayed on a monitor screen according to a display method corresponding to skimming behavior. In mode (b3), the second automatic paging display mode (automatic paging 2), each page is displayed on a monitor according to a display method corresponding to the general view (glancing). In addition, paragraph [0089] recites that with the above-mentioned display mode set in advance when selecting the aforesaid second automatic paging display mode for successively

conducting the paging by glancing at each page, a reader can conduct the automatic paging while displaying, for example, only the document layout on each page, thereby shortening the waiting time for page display.

In paragraph [0138] it is recited that when the paging switch is manipulated briefly so that page pressing time t does not reach the switching reference time $T1$, the sequential paging is selected, and the whole contents of the next page or previous page are displayed on the display panel, and then followed again by step S20, as found in Figure 4.

From Applicant's review of Iwata, Applicant does not agree that paragraph [0138] of Iwata teaches data that describes the position of the subsequent block in terms relative to the position of the previous block. While the reference to Iwata refers to sequential paging being selected and that the contents of a next page or a previous page can be displayed, the fact that the term "previous" appears in a passage of Iwata does not mean that the recitation set forth in the claim is met. Rather, it begs the point.

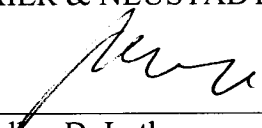
Claim 1 recites, in part, that "the content data includes positional data which relates to the blocks and which is for setting a position of a subsequent block relative to the position of a previous block" and that "said positional data includes data that describes the position of the subsequent block in terms relative to the position of the previous block." Moreover, Claim 1 recites that the predetermined content is divided into a plurality of blocks to be consecutively displayed. Accordingly, while Iwata does suggest that content is to be consecutively displayed, Applicant finds no description in the reference regarding the content data including positional data which relates to the blocks in which a setting of position of a subsequent block relative to the position of a previous block nor does the reference suggest that the positional data includes data that describes the position of the subsequent block in terms relative to the position of the previous block, as recited in independent Claim 1 and as similarly recited in independent Claim 4.

The Official Action notes correctly (page 10) that during patent prosecution the claims must be interpreted as broadly as their terms reasonably allow and that the broadest reasonable interpretation of the claims must also be consistent with interpretation that those skilled in the art would reach. However, "broadest reasonable interpretation" does not permit overlooking language found in a claim. In this instance, even though Iwata discloses sequentially displaying pages, the Official Action has not pointed to any passage of Iwata that describes content data including positional data which relates to the blocks in which the setting position of a subsequent block relative to the position of a previous block nor that the positional data includes data that describes the position of a subsequent block in terms relative to the position of the previous block, as claimed.

From all of the above, Applicant believes that Iwata does not make up for the deficiencies of Harada and that the rejection of Claims 1-5 should be withdrawn. Accordingly, an early indication of allowance of Claims 1-5 and 7-9 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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